

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor : Robert George Dunster	
Appln. No. : 10/508,809	Confirmation No.: 6212
Filed : April 7, 2005	Group Art Unit: 3752
Title : FIRE AND EXPLOSION SUPPRESSION	Examiner: Jason J. Boeckmann
Docket No. : PA20700050U-U71.12-87KL	

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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REMARKS

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed on May 6, 2010, in which claims 3-5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 18, 24-26, and 30-33 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Dell et al. (GB 1,051,841) in view of Yonnet (WO2000075741), using U.S. Pat. No. 6,935,362 as a reference disclosure for Yonnet.

A. The combination of art does not teach all the elements of the independent claims

In the Office Action, it was asserted that O'Dell teaches mixing means (14) for mixing the already-produced mist into a flow of the pressurized gas to produce a discharge in the form of a two-phase mixture comprising a suspension of droplets of the mist in the pressurized gas. (Office Action, pg. 2). However, the nozzle 14 of O'Dell does not teach or suggest this limitation, as recited in independent claims 4, 5, 12, 18, 24, and 32. Rather, O'Dell only teaches the discharge of